

ELECTRICAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

Tel. No. (860) 713-6135

-MINUTES-

DECEMBER 6, 2013

The Regular Meeting of December 6, 2013 was called to order by Chairman Laurence A. Vallieres at 8:33 AM in Room 126 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

Members Present: Laurence A. Vallieres, Contractor, Chairman
Ronald Bish, Contractor
Faith Gavin-Kuhn, Public Member
Frank Halloran, Journeyman
Anthony Soter, Journeyman
John W. Yusza, Electronic Technician

Members Absent: Sandy Marino, Public Member
David Munsill, Journeyman
Bruce A. Silva, Unlimited Journeyman

Member Vacancies: One (1) Non-Union Contractor
Two (2) Public Members

DCP Staff: Robert M. Kuzmich, Department of Consumer Protection
Richard M. Hurlburt, Department of Consumer Protection

Note: The administrative functions of the Boards, Commissions, and Councils are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division. For information, contact Richard M. Hurlburt, Director, at (860) 713-6135 or Fax (860) 713-7230.

Agency Website: www.ct.gov/dcp

Division E-Mail: dcp.occupationalprofessional@ct.gov

Others Present: Robert Woytowich
Deniz Kan, Industrial Technical Services

Keri Lamontagne, Connecticut Department of Labor
Brian Wohlforth, E. Brian's Electric
Clayton London, E. Brian's Electric
Vincent Benevente, United Illuminating
Paul Costello, I.B.E.W.
Juan Fuentes, DTZ
Jack Ribeiro, DTZ
Matthew Shaffer, Horizon Solutions
Ryan Stone, White Electric

1. 8:30 AM call to order. (Reminder to everyone to place their cell phones on silent”).

Mr. Vallieres called the meeting to order at 8:33 AM.

2. Review Minutes of Previous Meetings:

A. Review minutes of meetings of October 11, 2013.

After a thorough review by all, the Board voted to approve the minutes as submitted.
(Bish/Soter)

3. Comments or Concerns of Any Person Present Today:

No one scheduled before the Board today. In addition, there were no additional requests from anyone present at today's meeting.

4. Report from Trade Practice Division: for review by the Board.

The Board reviewed the report received from Trade Practices. Mr. Vallieres noticed that there doesn't appear to be any fines assessed with any of the Assurances of Voluntary Compliances that were issued. In the past the amount of each fine was also listed with the Assurance of Voluntary Compliance Letters. The Board asked if they should we assume that no fines were issued in any of these cases including Continuing Education? If fines were issued, they asked that the amount be indicated on all future reports.

Mr. Kuzmich also stated to the Board that the Department has added a new additional inspector, of which they were very grateful to hear. It is their hope that this new additional inspector will be able increase and improve on the number of field inspections made in the licensed trade areas.

5. Appearing before the Board at the Board's Request:

(1) **Mr. Juan Fuentes**, FMP, Campus Operations Manager at the University of Bridgeport (w/DTZ a UGL Company) appearing at the request of the Board as directed from their October 11, 2013 Regular Board Meeting. Mr. Fuentes was accompanied by Jack Ribeiro, Director of Operations for DTZ. Mr. Vallieres explained to Mr. Fuentes that he is before the Board today based upon information they received relative to the application of Mr. Saul Ayala who came before the Board seeking approval to sit for the E-2 License Examination and for consideration of his unregistered time and the issue of apprenticeship registration relative to this application.

Mr. Fuentes stated that his company, DTZ is a subcontractor to the University of Bridgeport providing general maintenance services including electrical work, mechanical work, janitorial services, and landscaping work. Mr. Vallieres noted that since he began working for DTZ, all individuals performing work that requires a license in Connecticut are licensed, in fact, in the State of Connecticut. Mr. Ayala came to work for DTZ as a part of a collective bargaining agreement relative to DTZ's predecessor, Sodexo. Mr. Ayala is not registered in an Apprenticeship Program with the State Department of Labor and since his interview with Board, has been assigned to other duties since DTZ is not providing for him as an Apprenticeship Sponsor.

The work being performed by DTZ at the University was discussed and is generally considered to be small in scale. Mr. Vallieres explained to Mr. Fuentes that these services his licensed E-1 electricians perform require electrical permits to be obtained. The rules of providing Electrical Contracting services were explained in detail to both Mr. Fuentes and Mr. Ribeiro by Mr. Bish and Mr. Vallieres. The Board considers DTZ to be acting as an Electrical Contractor and as such, they need to have a Contractor of Record which appears that they do not at this point. This fact becomes a major issue when permits need to be pulled and for the assignment of liability for work being performed. Mr. Vallieres summarized the electrical hierarchy in terms of individuals working in the field.

In conclusion, Mr. Vallieres noted that the Board has reviewed many applications similar to Mr. Ayala's and they hope to educate their employers by speaking in person with them. The Board is also trying to avoid future applicants not getting credit for their unregistered time and to stop the illegal offering of electrical services. The Board thanked Mr. Fuentes and Mr. Ribeiro for their time in speaking with them today.

A motion was made by Mr. Halloran and seconded by Mr. Soter to have Mr. Juan Perez and a representative from the Sodexo Company appear before the Board at a future Meeting to continue their discussion relative to Mr. Ayala's Application. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Perez was documented in Mr. Ayala's Application as having taught Mr. Ayala the electrical trade a part of his work for DTZ

6. Request to Appear before the Board;

No one was scheduled before the Board today.

7. Review of Applications(s) for Licensure Examination: applicant(s) appearing in person.

Mr. Vallieres advised all in attendance at today's meeting of the Board general rules and guidelines as they apply to applicants appearing before them for consideration to sit for their respective license examinations. He made reference to the document sent to all applicants by the Department which details specific information the Board is expecting from the applicants in support of their equivalent experience and training in addition to other more general information.

In addition, Mr. Vallieres also made reference to the Boards Outline for Journeypersons which gives the specific hours for related classroom instruction including course curriculums and the required on-the-job training hours for each license type.

(1) **Gjinaj, Pal** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The applicant was not present at today's meeting. Therefore, the Board took no action on his application.

(2) **Kan, Deniz M.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. Mr. Kan explained that he completed an Apprenticeship Program in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and has been working for one employer exclusively. He cited several jobs in Connecticut that he has worked on in Connecticut. Mr. Halloran noted that Mr. Kan should have been registered in Connecticut through the Department of Labor as an apprentice in Connecticut. However, upon further clarification based upon a question from Ms. Lamontagne, Mr. Kan stated that he holds a Massachusetts license. After more discussion, the Board determined that the applicant has the meet the requirements to sit for the E-2 Unlimited Journeyperson's Examination.

Mr. Bish first motioned to approve Mr. Kan for the E-2 License examination. The motion was seconded by Mr. Yusza and carried unanimously. Mr. Vallieres recommended that the applicant's employer, Industrial Technical Services, Inc., come before the Board for further discussion regarding their offering of electrical services in Connecticut. Ms. Gavin Kuhn asked Mr. Kan to explain to his employer that the reason the Board is asking him to appear is be sure he understands Connecticut Law and what it requires to do electrical work in Connecticut. In addition, Mr. Vallieres noted that Mr. Kan's employer should also identify their company's Contractor of Record when he appears.

(3) **London, Clayton A.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The Board voted unanimously to deny his application based upon a lack of on-the-job training and related classroom instruction. (Halloran/Soter)

(4) **Nelson, Michael K.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The applicant was not present at today's meeting. Therefore, the Board took no action on his application.

(5) **Shaffer, Matthew J.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The Board voted unanimously to table his application based upon a lack of related classroom instruction. (Halloran/Soter)

(6) **Stofka, Daniel M.** – C-5 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The applicant was not present at today's meeting. Therefore, the Board took no action on his application.

The applicant below was not scheduled to appear at the December 6, 2013 Board Meeting and therefore was not listed on the Agenda for this meeting. The Board voted unanimously to hear this applicant.

(1) **Benevento, III, Vincent J.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. Mr. Benevento was originally scheduled to appear before the Board at their last meeting. Mr. Benevento worked for electrical contractors directly after graduation from high school working for Minute Man Electric and D.F.G. Electric during which time he was told several times by his employers not to worry about registering as an apprentice and that they would take care of it. Mr. Benevento attended New England Technical School for his related classroom instruction

In November 2006 to the present time, Mr. Benevento went to work for the United Illuminating Company progressing through a number of duties and increasing responsibilities. Mr. Soter confirmed that Mr. Benevento never questioned being told multiple times by previous employers that he did not have to register with the Department of Labor even though registration was widely communicated through various avenues as a requirement for licensing. Mr. Benevento stated that although he does not legally need the E-2 license because he works for a Utility Company under an exemption in the law, he was encouraged by his fellow employees to pursue licensing. Mr. Benevento stated that he has asked his employer (United Illuminating Company), several times and was told by them that they will not enroll him as an apprentice with the Connecticut Department of Labor.

Mr. Halloran explained to Mr. Benevento, in detail, that the Board cannot accept his on-the-job training because it was not registered time and, therefore, not officially verified. Further, he told the applicant that he was taken advantage of by both of his former employers and this has left him in a difficult position. It was determined that Mr.

Benevento had applied to the Department twice in the past for licensing, both times having his application returned for lack of apprenticeship completion.

After more discussion, the Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Benevento's application for the E-2 license examination based upon a lack of officially registered on-the-job training hours. (Soter/Halloran) In a separate motion the Board voted unanimously to have representatives from both Minute Man Electric and D.F.G. Electric come before the Board regarding their offering of electrical services in Connecticut relative to Mr. Benevento's application. (Soter/Yusza)

7A. First Review of Application(s) for Licensure Examination - Applicants Not Appearing before Board.

With Apprenticeship Completion Letters:

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the applicants listed below (including add-ons) to sit for their respective examinations on the basis of a Certified Apprenticeship Completion Letter from the Connecticut Department of Labor or other Board-Approved Agency. (Soter/Bish)

- (1) **Bariffe, Steven R.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (2) **Bashta, Christopher M.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (3) **Corbally, Matthew R.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (4) **DeMasi, Jr., Salvatore J.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (5) **Deming, Thomas P.** - L-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (6) **Dimeo, Michele** - C-6 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (7) **Ekstrom, Kristofor R.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (8) **Lyons, Justin M.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship sponsored by Local Union #3 of the I.B.E.W. in conjunction with the Westchester-Fairfield Chapter of N.E.C.A.

- (9) **Moura, George R.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (10) **Paecht, Andrew** - C-6 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (11) **Sherwood, Jerry** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (12) **Sroka, Jerzy** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (13) **Viscuso, Jr., Ralph** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (14) **Wilkinson, Douglas J.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.

On The Basis of Equivalent Experience and Training:

The Board voted, unanimously, to require the applicants listed below, except as otherwise noted, (including add-ons) to appear before the Board at their January 10, 2014 Regular Meeting for review of their applications to test for their respective license types. Mr. Kuzmich will mail back their original applications in addition to Board Meeting Date information and information regarding education and on-the-job training for Journeyman license types. (Soter/Gavin-Kuhn)

- (1) **Bargantine, Ronald J.** - C-5 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training.
- (2) **Carpenter, Michael D.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training.
- (3) **Duckworth, IV, Roy D.** - E-1 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training.
- (4) **Gugel, Andrew E.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The Board voted unanimously to approve his application. (Soter/Halloran)
- (5) **Holloway, Justin L.** - E-1 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training.

(6) **Izzo, Robert C.** – E-1 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. Upon review of his application for the E-1 License Examination, the Board concluded that they will approve his application for the E-2 Journeyperson Examination but not for the E-1 Contractor Examination.
(Halloran/Soter)

It is the Board's policy that all applicants must first hold a Connecticut E-2 Journeyperson License for two years prior to applying for the E-1 Contractor License. If the applicant agrees to change his license application type from an E-1 to an E-2, he will be asked to notify the Department in writing. Otherwise, if he still wishes to pursue the E-1 License type or discuss his application further, the Board will require him to come before them for an interview at a future meeting.

(7) **Moccio, Corey J.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training.

(8) **O'Brien, Patrick** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training.

(9) **Oram, Cody E.** – E-1 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training.

(10) **Ribeiro, Mario A.** – L-6 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training.

(11) **Richards, Maxwell A.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training.

(12) **Shakes, Stafford S.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training.

(13) **Wilk, Edward G.** – L-1 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training.

8. Applicant(s) for Licensure reappearing in-person; none before the Board today.

(1) **Stone, Ryan W.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent Experience and training. Application was tabled by Board on November 8, 2013 pending receipt of letter from his current employer confirming his employment hours with the same in the State of Connecticut. Mr. Stone presented the Board with the documentation they requested. As such, the Board voted to unanimously approve his application. (Yusza/Bish)

9. Request for Renewal of License; none before the Board today.

10. Request for Reinstatement; none before the Board today.

11. Request for Reconsideration; none before the Board today.

12. Request to Suspend; none before the Board today.

13. Proposed Settlements and/or Stipulations Containing Consent Orders; none before the Board today.

Settlements Agreements:

Stipulation Agreements:

14. Notice of Continuance; none before the Board today.

15. Request to Dismiss or Request to Dismiss Without Prejudice; none before the Board today.

16. Request to Revise; none before the Board today.

17. Request to Reopen; none before the Board today.

18. Review of Examination Results; none before the Board today.

Electrical:

TV & Radio:

19. Review of Correspondence:

(A) Evaluation Forms For Continuing Education Course; for the Board's review and information. The Board acknowledged this correspondence and thanked the Department for the same. Board Members conducted a thorough review of the evaluation reports from the licensees.

(B) Electrical Apprentice Information Packet for E-2, L-6, T-2, and C-6 License Types from the Connecticut Technical High School System - Connecticut State Department of Education; for the Board's information. The Board acknowledged this correspondence and thanked the Department for the same.

20. Old Business:

(1) **Dougherty, Jonathan B.** – E-1 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. At their Regular Meeting held on November 8, 2013, the Board voted to conditionally approve Mr. Dougherty’s application subject to receipt of official verification from the State of Kentucky which verifies the applicant’s related classroom instruction hours required in the State of Kentucky. Mr. Kuzmich presented the Board with this documentation he received from the applicant prior to today’s meeting. As such, the Board formally acknowledged and confirmed their previous ruling to approve this application.

21. New Business:

No items were discussed.

22. Continuation of Formal Administrative Hearings; none before the Board today.

23. Matters Previously Heard Pending Decision; none before the Board today.

24. Final Decisions Pending Signature; none before the Board today.

25. Comments or Concerns of any Person Present Today:

No one scheduled before the Board today. In addition, there were no additional requests from anyone present at today’s meeting.

26. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM. The next Regular Meeting of the Electrical Work Examining Board is scheduled for Friday, January 10, 2013 at 8:30 AM; State Office Building; Room 126; 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut. (Vallieres/Bish)

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert M. Kuzmich, R.A.
License and Applications Specialist